

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 G06F9/50

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, INSPEC, WPI Data, IBM-TDB, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	LEINBERGER W; KARYPIS G; KUMAR V: "Multi-Capacity Bin Packing Algorithms with Applications to Job Scheduling under Multiple Constraints (TR 99-024)" "Online! 27 May 1999 (1999-05-27), pages 1-23, XP002285342 Retrieved from the Internet: URL: <a href="http://www-users.cs.umn.edu/{karypis/publications/Papers/PDF/mrbinpac.pdf">http://www-users.cs.umn.edu/{karypis/publications/Papers/PDF/mrbinpac.pdf</a> abstract page 4, last line - page 5, line 38 page 6, line 24 - page 7, line 5 page 7, line 6 - page 20, line 21	1-3, 11-14, 18-20
A	----- -/--	4,5,7, 15-17

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \* & \* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

26 October 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

05/11/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Kielhöfer, P

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with Indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	COFFMAN E G; GAREY M R; JOHNSON D S: "APPROXIMATION ALGORITHMS FOR BIN PACKING: A SURVEY" APPROXIMATION ALGORITHMS FOR NP-HARD PROBLEMS, 'Online! 1996, pages 1-53, XP002285343 Retrieved from the Internet: URL:http://www.ee.columbia.edu/{egc/webpap ers/BPchapter.ps>	1-3, 12-14
A	page 1, line 17 - line 21 page 4, line 9 - line 19 page 15, line 24 - line 31 page 17, line 10 - line 30	18, 19
A	page 7, line 18 - page 8, line 32  page 12, line 1 - page 15, line 23 page 17, line 31 - page 20, line 24	4, 5, 7, 15-17
X	US 2002/046316 A1 (MERCHANT ARIF ET AL) 18 April 2002 (2002-04-18)	1-3, 11-14, 18, 19
A	the whole document	7, 8, 17
A	"RELATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS FOR DISTRIBUTED DATABASE SYSTEMS" IBM TECHNICAL DISCLOSURE BULLETIN, IBM CORP. NEW YORK, US, vol. 31, no. 1, 1 June 1988 (1988-06-01), pages 219-225, XP000045647 ISSN: 0018-8689 page 225, line 12 - line 21	10
A	LU E J -L ; OKUNBOR D I: "An efficient load balancing technique for parallel FMA in message passing environment" PROCEEDINGS OF THE EIGHTH SIAM CONFERENCE ON PARALLEL PROCESSING FOR SCIENTIFIC COMPUTING, 'Online! March 1997 (1997-03), pages 1-8, XP002285344 USA Retrieved from the Internet: URL:http://www.cyut.edu.tw/{jlu/research/p arallel/nbody/siam97.ps> page 6, line 9 - line 13	9
A	AGGARWAL G; MOTWANI R; ZHU A: "The load rebalancing problem" PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL ACM SYMPOSIUM ON PARALLEL ALGORITHMS AND ARCHITECTURES, June 2003 (2003-06), pages 258-265, XP002285345 USA the whole document	1-20

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/008103

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2002046316 A1	18-04-2002	US 6366931 B1	02-04-2002
		EP 1145127 A2	17-10-2001
		WO 0031640 A2	02-06-2000
<hr/>			